

## GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

**Second Occurrence of the Western Sandpiper in Iowa.**—A female Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes maurii*) in juvenal plumage was collected by the writer on August 23, 1933. This bird was feeding alone in the shallow water of a cut-off creek bed near the Skunk River, ten miles northwest of Mitchelville, Polk County, Iowa. It was recognized as a Western Sandpiper before collecting it because of its long bill, thicker at the base. It appears to be a bird of the year, the skull being very thin and the plumage entirely unworn. The specimen is preserved in the writer's collection.

The only previous occurrence of this species in Iowa, substantiated by specimens, was on October 15, 1895, when Paul Bartsch secured two males and a female at Burlington, Des Moines County. These are now in the University of Iowa Museum.—PHILIP A. DUMONT, *Des Moines, Iowa*.

**Some Unusual Food Habits of the English Sparrow.**—While we were living in Richmond, Virginia, I occasionally noticed English Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*), usually females, busily eating the small leaflets of the mimosa tree in our front yard. Since we moved to Wilderness, I have seen two other rather unusual food habits of this bird. First, a short while ago, I saw two females of the species attempt to catch a hornet on the wing, as it was returning to its nest under the gabled roof of the porch. Another time, I saw a male vigorously shake something in his beak. Upon investigation, I found it was a large caterpillar, about three and a half inches long and more than an inch in circumference. It was very flat and contained but a small amount of green, mushy vegetable matter. There was not a break in the tough, leathery skin to account for the lack of body filler.—GORDON W. JONES, *Wilderness, Va.*

**The White Pelican on the Tennessee River.**—A record of the occurrence of the White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) on the Tennessee River in April, 1928, came to my notice several years ago. Some workmen on the highway bridge at Savannah, Tennessee, noticed a large dead bird floating in the river and secured it. A friend who witnessed the finding of the specimen saved a wing and the upper mandible as curios. These were later shown to me in Nashville. The mandible bore the horny elevation and checked with sizes quoted in the manuals.

The date of finding this bird was given as "about a week" after April 19, on which day an accident claimed a number of lives on the bridge. The pelican was said to have been shot, and to have been dead "a long time." Savannah lies about thirty river miles below the state line, above which point the Tennessee flows between the states of Alabama and Mississippi. The actual point of occurrence of this bird may have been in any of these states. Howell (*Birds of Alabama*, p. 39) gives several records for the Tennessee Valley.—HARRY C. MONK, *Nashville, Tenn.*

**First Record of the Golden-winged Warbler for South Dakota.**—On May 10, 1933, while on an early morning walk along the "Dells", about half a mile south of Dell Rapids, some warblers were noted feeding about thirty feet up in some ash and maple trees. After observing them for some time with bird glasses, it became evident they were not any of the migratory warblers that were familiar to me. In order to make their identification certain, I collected one